



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,944	09/27/2001	Robert A. Dunstan	42390P11892	5051
8791	7590	10/06/2004	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030			PARTON, KEVIN S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2153	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,944

Applicant(s)

DUNSTAN, ROBERT A.

Examiner

Kevin Parton

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/11/02
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 May 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Elg (USPN 6,694,354).
3. Regarding claim 1, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches a system comprising an electronic device capable of being coupled to a bus (figure 1); the electronic device having a memory device, the memory device contains a remote location's destination information (column 3, lines 2-4), wherein one of control and characteristic information for the electronic device is stored at the remote location (column 3, lines 17-25).
4. Regarding claims 2 and 8, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 6, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the remote location's destination information is one of a uniform resource locator (URL) and an Internet protocol (IP) address (column 3, lines 2-4).
5. Regarding claims 3 and 9, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 2 and 8, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the

electronic device's characteristics and control information is maintained at the remote location (column 3, lines 17-25).

6. Regarding claims 4 and 10, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 6, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the electronic device is a consumer electronic (CE) device (column 2, lines 60-65).

7. Regarding claim 5, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 1. He further teaches means wherein the electronic device transmits the remote location's destination information on a device specific bus when coupled to the device specific bus (column 3, lines 1-4).

8. Regarding claim 6, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches a system comprising:

- a. A plurality of electronic devices each coupled to a memory device, each of the memory devices contain a remote location's destination information, wherein one of control and characteristic information for the electronic device is stored at the remote location (figure 1; column 3, lines 2-4, 17-25).
- b. A plurality of device specific buses coupled to the plurality of electronic devices (figure 1).
- c. A plurality of device specific network bridge devices coupled to the plurality of device specific buses and a home network (figure 1, column 2, lines 56-57; column 3, lines 17-20).
- d. A device for communicating with a remote network (column 3, lines 17-20).

9. Regarding claim 7, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 6. He further teaches:

- a. A central processing device coupled to the home network (figure 1; column 2, lines 55-60). Please note that the host computer is a central processing device on the home network.
- b. A central memory device coupled to the central processing device (figure 1; column 2, lines 55-60).
- c. A display coupled to the central processing device (figure 1; column 2, lines 55-60).

10. Regarding claim 11, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 6. He further teaches means wherein the remote network is one of the Internet and an Intranet (column 3, lines 17-20).

11. Regarding claim 12, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 11. He further teaches means wherein each of the device's characteristics and control information is retrieved from a specific remote location upon coupling the device to its device specific bus (column 3, lines 1-4).

12. Claims 13, 14, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by White et al. (USPN 6,301,012).

13. Regarding claims 13 and 18, White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) teaches a system with means for:

- a. Generating a request for a device's identification information (column 3, lines 47-57).

- b. Receiving the requested device's identification information (column 3, lines 47-57).
 - c. Determining whether characteristic information for the device is previously stored on a system (column 3, lines 58-61).
 - d. Communicating with a remote location if the device's characteristic information is not previously stored on the system (column 3, lines 60-65).
 - e. Retrieving the device's characteristic information if the characteristic information is not previously stored on the system (column 3, lines 65-66).
 - f. Storing the characteristic information not previously stored on the system (column 3, line 65 – column 4, line 5).
14. Regarding claims 14 and 19, White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 13 and 18, respectively. They further teach means for:
- a. Using the device's characteristic information to control the device (column 3, lines 54-56).
 - b. Determining whether the stored characteristic information needs to be updated (column 3, lines 58-62).
 - c. Replacing the stored characteristic information with new characteristic information if the stored characteristic information needs to be updated (column 3, lines 62-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

15. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

16. Claims 15-17, and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) in view of Elg (USPN 6,694,354).

17. Regarding claims 15 and 20, although the system disclosed by White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) (as applied to claims 13 and 18, respectively) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the device's identification information is a remote location's destination information.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) as evidenced by Elg (USPN 6,694,354).

In an analogous art, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) discloses a system for the integration of peripheral devices wherein the device's identification information is a remote location's destination information (column 3, lines 2-4).

Given the teaching of Elg (USPN 6,694,354), it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) by providing the destination location in the device's identification information. This benefits the system by allowing it to quickly access remote information without a secondary lookup.

18. Regarding claims 16 and 21, although the system disclosed by White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) (as applied to claims 15 and 20, respectively) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the remote location's destination information is one of a uniform resource locator (URL) and an Internet Protocol (IP) address.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) as evidenced by Elg (USPN 6,694,354).

In an analogous art, Elg (USPN 6,694,354) discloses a system for the integration of peripheral devices wherein the remote location's destination information is one of a uniform resource locator (URL) and an Internet Protocol (IP) address (column 3, lines 2-4).

Given the teaching of Elg (USPN 6,694,354), it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) by providing a URL or IP address as the location of the remote provider. This benefits the system by giving it an immediate web address that can be accessed with no further search on an Intranet or on the Internet.

19. Regarding claims 17 and 22, White et al. (USPN 6,301,012) teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 13 and 18, respectively. They further teach means for displaying information on a display device (column 4, lines 6-8).

Conclusion

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please see the following:

- a. Koppich et al. (USPN 6,636,329)
- b. Kikinis (USPN 6,622,169)
- c. Li et al. (USPN 6,012,088)
- d. Poger et al. (6,722,420)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Parton whose telephone number is (703)306-0543. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703)305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kevin Parton
Examiner
Art Unit 2153


FRANTZ B. JEAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER